

JOSEPH ROBERTS.

FEBRUARY 8, 1904.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. SULLOWAY, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 2527.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2527) granting an increase of pension to Joseph Roberts, have examined the same and adopt the Senate report thereon and recommend that the bill do pass.

[Senate Report No. 239, Fifty-eighth Congress, second session.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2527) granting an increase of pension to Joseph Roberts, have examined the same and report:

It is proposed by this bill to increase from \$12 to \$20 per month the pension of Joseph Roberts, of East Middlebury, Vt., late of Company C, Seventh Regiment Vermont Volunteer Infantry, and Company C, Fourth Regiment, U. S. Veteran Volunteer Infantry.

The military records show that Joseph Roberts was a good soldier, with an honorable record of nearly four years' service. He first enlisted January 15, 1862, in Company C, Seventh Vermont Infantry, and was discharged August 30, 1864. He reenlisted January 17, 1865, in Company C, Fourth U. S. Veteran Volunteers, and was discharged January 29, 1866. He is now a pensioner under the act of June 27, 1890, at \$12 per month for total disability due to injury of abdominal walls, disease of rectum, and partial paralysis of right side. He was formerly pensioned under the general law at \$6 per month for injury to abdominal walls incurred in service, his last claim for increase under that law, filed October 11, 1898, having been rejected September 20, 1899.

Claimant is 62 years old and totally incapacitated for earning a support. When he was last examined, March 20, 1901, he was found to be suffering from injury to abdominal walls, chronic diarrhea, rheumatism, weak heart, deafness, and partial paralysis, and the examining board reported him as wholly incapacitated for the performance of manual labor.

It is shown by his petition, which accompanies the bill, that his only income is his pension of \$12 per month. He has a small house, valued at \$300, which is only a shelter and nothing more. He is in every way worthy, and his long and faithful service and total disability entitle him to relief.

Your committee are of opinion that he should have the increase of pension proposed in the bill, which is to \$20 per month.

The passage of the bill is recommended.